



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
)	
Akihiko Umeno et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3736
)	
Application No.: 10/635,716)	Examiner: KRISTIN D. ROGERS
)	
Filing Date: August 7, 2003)	Confirmation No.: 1956
)	
Title: GUIDE WIRE)	
)	
)	
)	
)	

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

- ☐ A Petition for Extension of Time is enclosed.
- ☐ _____ Terminal Disclaimer(s) and the ☐ \$ 65 ☐ \$ 130 fee per Disclaimer due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are enclosed.
- ☐ Also enclosed is/are: _____
- ☐ Small entity status is hereby claimed.
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the ☐ \$ 395 ☐ \$ 790 fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered. Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified above.
- ☐ Applicant(s) previously submitted _____ on _____ for which continued examination is requested.
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least _____, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.
- ☐ A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also enclosed.

- ☒ No additional claim fee is required.
- ☐ An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	No. of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	34	34	0	x \$ 50 (1202)	\$ 0
Independent Claims	3	3	0	x \$ 200 (1201)	0
<input type="checkbox"/> If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$ 360 (1203)					\$ 0
Total Claim Amendment Fee					\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee					0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$ 0

- ☐ Charge _____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.
- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the fee due.
- ☐ Charge _____ to credit card for the fee due. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date March 30, 2017

By: Matthew L. Schneider
Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32814

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
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**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND
ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated February 28, 2007, the following remarks are submitted.

The aforementioned Official Action indicates that the claims in this application are directed to two different inventions. As identified in the Official Action, the two inventions are as follows.

Group I invention defined in Claims 1-22 drawn to a guide wire apparatus.

Group II invention defined in Claims 23-34 drawn to a method of manufacturing a guide wire.

Based on the observation that the two inventions are distinct from one another, a restriction requirement has been imposed requiring an election of one of the two inventions.

Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, the Group II invention recited in Claims 23-34.

In addition, the Official Action notes with respect to the Group II invention that the method claims are directed to two different species. As identified in the Official Action, the two species are as follows.

Species I in which the cross-sectional area of the first end portion of the second wire is less than the cross-sectional area of the first end portion of the first wire before welding.

Species II in which the cross-sectional area of the first end portion of the second wire is less than the cross-sectional area of the first end portion of the first wire after welding.

In response to the election of species requirement, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Species II. Claims 23-27, 29, 30 and 32-34 are readable on the elected species.

The election of the Group II invention and Species II is made with traverse because it is believed that all of the claims of this application can be examined at the same time without serious burden. Though the Group I and Group II inventions may be separately classified, it is believed that the search required for the elected invention set forth in Claims 23-34 would likely extend into those areas where the non-elected invention would be searched. Also, the search required for the elected species would be coextensive with that required for the non-elected species. Further, examining all of the claims of this application at the same time would not require consideration of an unduly burdensome number of additional claims.

In light of the foregoing, withdrawal of the restriction requirement and election of species requirement, and examination of all of the claims of this application,

including Claims 23-27, 29, 30 and 32-34 directed to the elected invention and elected species, are respectfully requested.

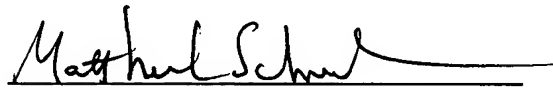
Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: March 30, 2007

By:



Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32814

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
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